Police

Mission Statement

The mission of the Riverside Police Department is to provide high quality police service through timely responses to calls for service, capably investigating crimes, diligently apprehending criminals, and providing innovative and effective crime prevention strategies through diverse police-community partnerships that promote safer neighborhoods, businesses, schools and parks for all the citizens of Riverside.

Council Priorities Addressed

- Public Safety
- Improving Neighborhood Livability
- More Effective Communication with the Public

Major 2001/02 Priorities

- Implementation of the State of California Attorney General's Settlement Agreement actions.
- Development of a comprehensive 1 3 5 year Strategic Plan.
- Implementation of one Safe Parks Program in each area command of the city.
- Finalize and introduce the first Semi-Annual Traffic Stop Data Report.

- Complete the reorganization of the Riverside Police Department.
- Expansion of the Problem Oriented Policing (POP) Team.

Programs and Program Goals

FY 2001/02

Police Administration: To provide policy direction, administrative support and fiscal management to enable the Department to achieve program outcomes while complying with federal, state, local, and other requirements.

Management Services: To provide Records Management, Fleet Management, Crime Analysis, Facilities Management, and Technical Support for the department and citizens of Riverside in order to meet mandated reporting requirements and to maximize the achievement of departmental outcomes.

Communications Center: To receive and effectively triage Police, Fire and Medical responses and related calls, for all the citizens of Riverside, in order to initiate timely public safety responses.

Field Operations: To provide timely response to calls for service, diligently enforce statutes, and promote diverse police-community partnerships that treat all persons with dignity and respect in order to reduce crime and provide a safe environment for living, working and playing.

General Fund

- Office of the Chief of Police
- Management Services
- Communications
- Field Operations
- Aviation
- General Investigations
- Special Investigations

Programs and Program Goals

Aviation: To provide aerial helicopter support for police activities, fire, and emergency services which supplement ground forces and assists in the interdiction and apprehension of criminals and provides support for other life saving efforts.

General Investigations: To conduct follow-up investigations to help solve crimes, apprehend offenders, identify crime patterns, and initiate crime prevention and suppression strategies for all persons living in or visiting the City of Riverside in order that we may be safe in our homes, neighborhoods, schools and parks.

Special Investigations: To conduct pro-active policing initiatives, which are designed to deter and apprehend offenders of gang, prostitution, and drug crimes, to render safe explosives and clandestine labs encountered, and to provide innovative programs and strategies for at-risk youth for all the citizens of Riverside in order that we may be safe in our homes, neighborhoods, school and parks.

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Description of the Service

Office of the Chief of Police includes Department Administration which provides policy and leadership direction. The Office also includes Financial Management, Personnel and Training, Court Services, Internal Affairs, Media Relations, and a special task force that coordinates the implementation of the State Attorney General's Settlement Agreement. The responsibilities of the Office of the Chief of Police include: total administration of the department; budget preparation and administration; grant management; internal audits; investigation of all misconduct; coordination with the new Community Police Review Commission (CPRC); management and preparation of civil litigation matters; risk management, labor relations, training, recruitment and background investigations; and oversight for automation and special projects.

Management Services includes administrative and technical system support for the department, records management, property and evidence control, vehicle procurement and maintenance, general facilities maintenance, crime analysis, asset inventory, alarm enforcement, data entry, front counter police services, and the telephone report writing unit.

Communications Bureau answers all 9-1-1 emergency telephone calls in the city. All emergency requests for police, fire and medical aid are routed through the Bureau. Incoming calls are evaluated and appropriate units and personnel are dispatched as required. Additional services include processing all Graffiti calls and maintenance of all radio communications equipment.

Field Operations is the largest division of the Police Department. It is responsible for the following: first police response to emergencies; perform preliminary investigations and provide basic police patrol services; inform and educate civic and neighborhood groups on safety and crime prevention; provide on-duty availability of canine units for searches and assistance in detecting the location of suspects, missing persons, evidence or contraband; deploy Bicycle Patrol Unit to perform routine patrol duties; administration of the Police Cadet Program, the Police Reserve Team, the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team, Traffic Enforcement (Motorcycle Patrol), Accident Investigation, Parking Control, Problem Oriented Policing (POP), School Crossing Guards, Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and coordination and management of the Volunteer Program. Additionally, Field Operations provides limited police services at seven area storefronts throughout the city, the Galleria at Tyler, and provides cooperative law enforcement services for the University Neighborhood Enhancement Team (UNET).

Aviation Unit provides support for ground operations in observing, preventing and interdicting criminal activity and recovering of stolen vehicles. Provides traffic surveillance and control, and aerial support for vehicle pursuits. Provides back-up assistance, tactical team insertions and extractions, VIP protection, search and rescue, fire spotting and direct fire suppression by aerial application of water on non-structural fires.

General Investigations is responsible for conducting follow-up criminal investigations and preparing those cases for prosecution. Jurisdiction includes Crimes Against Persons, Robberies, Property Crimes, Sexual Assault/Child Abuse and Domestic Violence, Economic Crimes, Schools Resource Officers (SRO), Youth Resource Officers (YRO), and Evidence Identification Unit

Special Investigations conducts investigations of cases involving organizations and individuals involved in drugs. Other major duties include: preparing cases for prosecution by the District Attorney; investigation of individuals and organizations involved in illegal drugs and controlled substances; drug trafficking affecting this jurisdiction; vice activities; criminal intelligence gathering to include gangs; dissemination of intelligence information; public official and dignitary protection; Explosive Ordinance Detail; preliminary asset forfeiture activities; and Program Management for Project Bridge. This Division also provides assistance to several drug task forces.

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Recent Accomplishments

- Completed negotiation with the State Attorney General leading to the settlement and stipulated judgement.
- Implemented 1-866-TAG-FREE in September 2000 for reporting graffiti.
- Sought out and received a \$1 million COPS Technology Grant through Congressman Calvert for further implementation of the mobile data computers.
- Began implementation of the Healthy Students/Safe Schools program placed four Youth Resource Officers in Wellness Centers.
- Sought out and received nearly \$800,000 in additional federal and state grant funds to continue and expand Project Bridge, the youth gang intervention/prevention program.
- Registered 743 Sexual Offenders (15.5% increase from 1999).
- Began implementation of the new Document Imaging System (Laserfiche) to begin scanning operations within Records.
- Set up a Crime Analysis Office at the Lincoln Facility to provide on-site support to Field Operations.
- Completed the Computer Training Room at the Aviation Facility with funds from both a federal COPS grant and police asset forfeiture monies.
- Received a \$200,000 State Technology Grant that was used to help modify the Lincoln Roll Call Room with state of the art communications and video equipment.
- Implemented the new Vision Records Management System (RMS)
- First year of demographic data for traffic stops has been collected and a preliminary report was drafted.
- Phase One of the reorganization completed. 24 hour Lt Watch Commanders are now in place.
- The Sexual Assault/Child Abuse Unit obtained overdue DNA registration of all known sex registrants living with the city. The Riverside Police Department is now one of the few agencies in the State that has complied with this new law.
- The University Corridor Task Force helped reduce crime at various locations along University Avenue.
- Implemented Operation Safe Park at six parks within the city.
- Established a Citizen's Advisory Group that meets monthly with the Chief.
- 148 Apartment complexes completed Phase III for Crime Free Multi Housing.